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United States Department of Agriculture,

FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD.

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SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

AUGUST, 1918.

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PINK BOLLWORM SITUATION.

In addition to the destruction of volunteer cotton throughout the quarantine zones in Texas which has been kept up during July and August, a thorough investigation of possible alternative food plants, notably okra and hollyhock, has also been undertaken. This investigation has covered the sections in quarantine zone No. 2, where the infestation by the pink bollworm in fields of cotton in 1917 was most severe, and has involved the examination of thousands of these possible alternative food plants. The results so far have been entirely negative, no instance having been found of infestation of any plant by the pink bollworm in Texas. The investigations at the Laguna station have confirmed, in part, the reports of possible alternative food plants made by the Egyptian authorities; and an acquaintance with the detailed facts on which the Egyptian reports are based and the conditions, as so far developed, in the Laguna, indicates that, while there may be a possibility of such alternative food plants, the infestation of such alternative food plants is exceptional and need not, therefore, necessarily invalidate the quarantine and clean-up program now being carried out in Texas.

The plantings of cotton in violation of the Texas law in quarantine district No. 2 surrounding Trinity Bay are, fortunately, in parts of this quarantine district where the pink bollworm was least abundant in the season of 1917. It now seems probable, either by court action or by mutual compromise between the State and the planters, that these fields can be either destroyed or safeguarded so that the risk from these plantings can be largely minimized, if not eliminated.

The Mexican Agricultural Commission, which has been visiting the United States, consisted of the minister de fomento, Pastor Rouaix, the secretary of agriculture, Jose Duvallon, and others; and in their visit to Washington were in informal conference with the Federal Horticultural Board, when the general subject of cooperation in quarantine and other necessary work in relation to the control of the pink bollworm was thoroughly discussed. Undoubtedly more efficient future cooperation will result from this conference.

NEW QUARANTINES.

The bamboo quarantine referred to in the last number of this announcement has been issued and is published in this number. Notices of hearings on two new quarantines, one in relation to the newly imported Japanese beetle, and the other to the newly imported European corn worm, are also incorporated in this number. These quarantines have special relation to restricting the movement of green sweet or sugar corn, which seems to be a source of possible easy carriage and wide distribution of these pests. The hearings in relation to these two insects have resulted in the recommendation of quarantines which will probably be shortly promulgated.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *August 12, 1918.*

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED QUARANTINE OF A PORTION OF NEW JERSEY ON ACCOUNT OF THE SO-CALLED JAPANESE BEETLE.

The Secretary of Agriculture has information that a dangerous insect infestation, namely, the so-called Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*), new to and not heretofore widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States, exists in the townships of Delran, Chester, and Cinnaminson, county of Burlington, New Jersey.

It appears that the territory above described should be quarantined in accordance with section 8 of the Plant Quarantine Act of August 20, 1912 (37 Stat. 315), as amended by act of Congress approved March 4, 1917 (39 Stat., 1134, 1165), and that the movement from said territory into other States, Territories, and Districts of green sweet or sugar corn, ripe tomatoes, and ripe peaches, should be restricted or prohibited.

Notice is therefore hereby given that a public hearing will be held at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Room 11, Federal Horticultural Board, at 10 o'clock a. m., August 20, 1918, in order that any person interested in the proposed quarantine may appear and be heard either in person or by attorney.

The insect referred to above was introduced in the vicinity of Riverton, N. J., probably during the last five or six years and presumably from Japan in soil around the roots of Iris. The beetle has thoroughly established itself and from some 600 acres infested when the insect was first discovered it has spread and at present occurs over from 7,000 to 10,000 acres with one or two outlying points of infestation involving approximately 25,000 acres. It is reported to be one of the most injurious insects of Japan, and its behavior in this country indicates exceptional possibilities for damage. The insect is a general feeder, attacking the grape, peach, plum, apple, and cherry, as well as many ornamental plants. It has been found injuring the sweet potato and other truck crops, especially sweet corn. The beetles penetrate the tips of the ears of sweet corn much like the common corn earworm and could thus be widely distributed with the shipment of the corn to the various markets. The insect feeds freely on a variety of weeds, especially smartweeds. As far as known it does not occur in other parts of the United States than in the area indicated.

A campaign of eradication authorized by Congress is now in progress and the proposed quarantine is deemed necessary to support the measures that are being taken for the suppression of this dangerous insect.

[A press notice in regard to this hearing was also issued from the Office of Information of the United States Department of Agriculture.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *August 15, 1918.*

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED QUARANTINE OF A PORTION OF MASSACHUSETTS ON ACCOUNT OF THE EUROPEAN CORN BORER.

The Secretary of Agriculture has information that a dangerous insect infestation, namely, that by the European corn borer (*Pyrausta nubilalis*), new to and not heretofore widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States, exists in the townships of Beverly, Danvers, North Reading, Reading, Lynnfield, Peabody, Salem, Marblehead, Swampscott, Lynn, Saugus, Wakefield, Woburn, Stoneham, Melrose, Winchester, Medford, Malden, Everett, Revere, Winthrop, Nahant, Lexington, Arlington, Somerville, Cambridge, Belmont, Waltham, Watertown, Newton, Brookline, and Boston, in the counties of Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, in the State of Massachusetts.

It appears that the territory above described should be quarantined in accordance with section 8 of the Plant Quarantine Act of August 20, 1912 (37 Stat., 315), as amended by act of Congress approved March 4, 1917 (39 Stat., 1134, 1165), and that the movement from said territory into other States, Territories, and Districts of green sweet corn, roasting ears, corn on the cob, corn cobs, corn fodder, and corn stalks should be restricted or prohibited.

Notice is therefore hereby given that a public hearing will be held at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Room 11, Federal Horticultural Board, at 10 o'clock a. m., August 27, 1918, in order that any person interested in the proposed quarantine may appear and be heard either in person or by attorney.

This insect was discovered late in the summer of 1917 to have become established in the vicinity of Boston, Mass., over a territory which, at that time, was found to be approximately 100 square miles. The infested area has since been determined to approximate 135 square miles in extent. The caterpillar may have been introduced in the dried stems of hemp, hops, or of several other plants from central or southern Europe or even from northern Asia or Japan, as it occurs abundantly in those countries, where it is known to attack corn, hemp, hops, millet, several wild grasses, and many common weeds. It is especially injurious to corn in foreign countries, and the preliminary biological studies of the insect which have been carried on in Massachusetts during the past nine months make it obvious that its injuries in this country are of the gravest possible character. It bores into the base of the flower stalk, often causing the pollen to be spilled upon the ground and preventing fertilization of the plants, enters the stalks, injuring them severely, and also bores into the ears of the corn, rendering them unfit for food, and in this way increasing very greatly the likelihood of its being distributed over wide areas through the shipment of the ears of sweet corn. There are two generations of the pest in this country, the second one wintering over as full-grown larvæ in the interior of the dead stalks. This fact also provides another means of artificial distribution, as corn fodder is frequently hauled for considerable distances in New England for forage purposes and the bedding of cattle. The insect also hibernates in the dead stems of many common weeds and several garden vegetables such as tomatoes, beans, etc. So far as known, it does not occur in any other part of the United States than above indicated.

[A press notice in regard to this hearing was also issued from the Office of Information of the United States Department of Agriculture.]

NOTICE OF QUARANTINE NO. 34—BAMBOO QUARANTINE.

[Effective on and after October 1, 1918.]

The fact has been determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, and notice is hereby given, that dangerous plant diseases, including the bamboo smut (*Ustilago shiraiana*), new to and not heretofore widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States, occur in Japan, China, India, Philippine Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Oceania, Africa, Europe, South America, British West Indies, Cuba, and Central America.

Now, therefore, I, D. F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture, under the authority conferred by the act of Congress approved August 20, 1912, known as the Plant Quarantine Act (37 Stat., 315), do hereby declare that it is necessary, in order to prevent the introduction into the United States of the dangerous plant diseases mentioned above, to forbid the importation into the United States from the above-named and all other foreign countries and localities, of bamboo seed, plants or cuttings thereof capable of propagation, including all genera and species of the tribe *Bambuseae*.

On and after October 1, 1918, and until further notice, by virtue of said act of Congress approved August 20, 1912, the importation for any purpose of any variety of bamboo seed, plants or cuttings thereof capable of propagation, including all genera and species of the tribe *Bambuseae*, from the above-named and all other foreign countries and localities, is prohibited, except for experimental or scientific purposes by the Department of Agriculture: *Provided*, That the entry for immediate export, or for immediate transportation and exportation in bond, of bamboo seed, plants or cuttings thereof capable of propagation, including all genera and species of the tribe *Bambuseae*, may be permitted in accordance with the regulations governing such entry for immediate export, or for immediate transportation and exportation in bond, promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture, October 20, 1917.

This notice of quarantine does not apply to bamboo timber consisting of the mature dried culms or canes which are imported for fishing-rod, furniture-making, or other purposes, or to any kind of article manufactured from bamboo, or to bamboo shoots cooked or otherwise preserved.

Done in the District of Columbia this 8th day of August, 1918.

Witness my hand and the seal of the United States Department of Agriculture.

D. F. Houston,
Secretary of Agriculture.

August 10, 1918.

WARNING TO PASSENGERS.

Heavy penalty against unauthorized movement from the Republic of Mexico into the United States for any purpose of oranges; sweet limes; grapefruit; mangoes; achras sapotes; peaches; guavas; plums; avocado, or alligator pear; the seeds of the avocado, or alligator pear; sugar cane; citrus nursery stock; sweet potatoes and yams; banana plants; nursery stock; Irish potatoes; cotton; cotton seed, seed cotton, and cottonseed hulls; and other cottonseed products.

The attention of passengers or other persons on all stages or other carriers or vehicles bound for the United States from the Republic of Mexico is called to the fact that, in order to prevent the introduction into the United States of dangerous insects, namely, the Mexican fruit fly and the avocado weevil, the

Secretary of Agriculture, under authority of section 7 of the act of August 20, 1912 (37 Stat., 315), known as the Plant Quarantine Act, has prohibited the movement from the said Republic of Mexico into the United States of the following Mexican fruits: Oranges; sweet limes; grapefruit; mangoes; achras sapotes; peaches; guavas; plums; and the small, purple, thin-skinned fruit of the avocado. The entry from Mexico of the large variety of the fruit of the avocado, known in Mexico as "Pagua," is permitted only through the port of New York and then only under a permit previously obtained from the Department of Agriculture.

All fruits the movement of which into the United States is prohibited, in the personal possession or in the baggage or other effects of passengers or other persons, must be consumed, discarded, or destroyed before crossing the border into the United States.

The movement from the Republic of Mexico into the United States of the following articles is also prohibited by quarantine. Cotton seed, seed cotton, and cottonseed hulls except from the vicinity of the Imperial Valley of the State of Lower California; seeds of the avocado, or alligator pear; sugar cane; citrus nursery stock; sweet potatoes and yams; and banana plants.

The movement from the Republic of Mexico into the United States of the following articles is prohibited, except when entered under special permits previously obtained from the Department of Agriculture and through the ports specified in the permits: Nursery stock; Irish potatoes; cotton; cotton seed, seed cotton, and cottonseed hulls from the vicinity of the Imperial Valley, Lower California; and cottonseed cake, meal, or other cottonseed products.

Any person who transports from Mexico into the United States any of the fruits or other articles mentioned above, in violation of the quarantine orders and regulations issued by the Secretary of Agriculture, will be subject to punishment by a fine not exceeding $500 or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

D. F. HOUSTON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

LIST OF CURRENT QUARANTINE AND OTHER RESTRICTIVE ORDERS.

QUARANTINE ORDERS.

The numbers assigned to these quarantines indicate merely the chronological order of issuance of both domestic and foreign quarantines in one numerical series. The quarantine numbers missing in this list are quarantines which have either been superseded or revoked. For convenience of reference these quarantines are here classified as domestic and foreign.

DOMESTIC QUARANTINES.

Date palms.—Quarantine No. 6: Regulates the interstate movement of date palms or date-palm offshoots from Riverside County, Cal., east of the San Bernardino meridian; Imperial County, Cal.; Yuma, Maricopa, and Pinal Counties, Ariz.; and Webb County, Tex.; on account of the Parlatoria scale (*Parlatoria blanchardi*) and the Phoenicococcus scale (*Phoenicococcus marlatti*).

Cotton seed and cottonseed hulls.—Quarantine No. 9: Prohibits the importation of cotton seed and cottonseed hulls from the Territory of Hawaii on account of the pink bollworm.

Hawaiian fruits.—Quarantine No. 13, revised: Prohibits or regulates the importation from Hawaii of all fruits and vegetables, in the natural or raw state, on account of the Mediterranean fruit fly and the melon fly.

Sugar cane.—Quarantine No. 16: Prohibits the importation from Hawaii and Porto Rico of living canes of sugar cane or cuttings or parts thereof, on account of certain injurious insects and fungus diseases.

Cotton.—Quarantine No. 23, revised: Regulates the movement of cotton from Hawaii to the continental United States, on account of the pink bollworm.

Five-leafed pines, Ribes and Grossularia.—Quarantine No. 26: Prohibits the interstate movement of five-leafed pines, currant and gooseberry plants from all States east of and including the States of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana to points outside of this area; prohibits, further, the interstate movement of five-leafed pines and black-currant plants to points outside the area comprising the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York on account of the white-pine blister rust.

Sweet potato and yam.—Quarantine No. 30: Prohibits the movement from the Territories of Hawaii and Porto Rico into or through any other Territory, State, or District of the United States of all varieties of sweet potatoes and yams (*Ipomoea batatas* and *Dioscorea* spp.), regardless of the use for which the same are intended, on account of the sweet-potato weevil (*Cylas formicarius*) and the sweet-potato scarabee (*Euscepes batatae*).

Banana plants.—Quarantine No. 32: Prohibits the movement from the Territories of Hawaii and Porto Rico into or through any other Territory, State, or District of the United States of any species or variety of banana plants (*Musa* spp.), regardless of the use for which the same are intended, on account of two injurious weevils, *Rhabdocnemis obscurus* and *Metamasius hemipterus*.

Gipsy moth and brown-tail moth.—Quarantine No. 33: Regulates the movement interstate to any point outside of the quarantined towns and territory, or from points in the generally infested area to points in the lightly infested area, of stone or quarry products, and of the plants and the plant products listed therein. The quarantine covers portions of the New England States.

FOREIGN QUARANTINES.

Irish potato.—Quarantine No. 3: Prohibits the importation of the common or Irish potato from Newfoundland; the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon; Great Britain, including England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland; Germany; and Austria-Hungary, on account of the disease known as potato wart.

Mexican fruits.—Quarantine No. 5, as amended: Prohibits the importation of oranges, sweet limes, grapefruit, mangoes, achras sapotes, peaches, guavas, and plums from the Republic of Mexico, on account of the Mexican fruit fly.

Five-leafed pines, Ribes, and Grossularia.—Quarantine No. 7, as amended: Prohibits the importation from each and every country of Europe and Asia, and from the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland, of all five-leafed pines and all species and varieties of the genera *Ribes* and *Grossularia*, on account of the white-pine blister rust.

Cotton seed and cottonseed hulls.—Quarantine No. 8, as amended: Prohibits the importation from any foreign locality and country, excepting only the locality of the Imperial Valley, in the State of Lower California, Mexico, of cotton seed (including seed cotton) of all species and varieties, and cottonseed hulls, on account of the pink bollworm. Cotton and cotton seed from the Imperial Valley may be entered under permit and regulation.

Seeds of avocado or alligator pear.—Quarantine No. 12: Prohibits the importation from Mexico and the countries of Central America of the seeds of the avocado or alligator pear, on account of the avocado weevil.

Sugar cane.—Quarantine No. 15: Prohibits the importation from all foreign countries of living canes of sugar cane or cuttings or parts thereof, on account of certain injurious insects and fungus diseases. There are no restrictions on the entry of such materials into Hawaii and Porto Rico.

Citrus nursery stock.—Quarantine No. 19: Prohibits the importation from all foreign localities and countries of all citrus nursery stock, including buds, scions, and seeds, on account of the citrus canker and other dangerous citrus diseases. The term "citrus," as used in this quarantine, includes all plants belonging to the subfamily or tribe *Citratœ*.

European pines.—Quarantine No. 20: Prohibits, on account of the European pineshoot moth (*Evetria buoliana*), the importation from all European countries and localities of all pines not already excluded by Quarantine No. 7.

Indian corn or maize and related plants.—Quarantine No. 24, as amended: Prohibits the importation from southeastern Asia (including India, Siam, Indo-China, and China), Malayan Archipelago, Australia, New Zealand, Oceania, Philippine Islands, Formosa, Japan, and adjacent islands, in the raw or unmanufactured state, of seed and all other portions of Indian corn or maize (*Zea mays* L.), and the closely related plants, including all species of Teosinte (*Euchlaena*), Job's tears (*Coix*), *Polytoca*, *Chionachne*, and *Sclerachne*, on account of the downy mildews and *Physoderma* diseases of Indian corn, except that Indian corn or maize may be imported on compliance with the conditions prescribed in the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Citrus fruit.—Quarantine No. 28: Prohibits the importation from eastern and southeastern Asia (including India, Siam, Indo-China, and China), the Malayan Archipelago, the Philippine Islands, Oceania (except Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand), Japan (including Formosa and other islands adjacent to Japan),

and the Union of South Africa, of all species and varieties of citrus fruits, on account of citrus canker, except that oranges of the mandarin class (including satsuma and tangerine varieties) may be imported on compliance with the conditions prescribed in the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Sweet potato and yam.—Quarantine No. 29: Prohibits the importation for any purpose of any variety of sweet potatoes or yams (*Ipomoea batatas* and *Dioscorea* spp.) from all foreign countries and localities, on account of the sweet potato weevils (*Cylas* spp.) and the sweet potato scarabee (*Euscepes batatae.*)

Banana plants.—Quarantine No. 31: Prohibits the importation for any purpose of any species or variety of banana plants (*Musa* spp.), from all foreign countries and localities, on account of the banana root borer (*Cosmopolites sordidus*).

OTHER RESTRICTIVE ORDERS.

The regulation of the entry of nursery stock from foreign countries into the United States was specifically provided for in the plant-quarantine act. The act further provides for the similar regulation of any other class of plants or plant products when the need therefor shall be determined. The entry of the plants and plant products listed below has been brought under such regulation:

Nursery stock.—Nursery stock is entered under regulations requiring a permit, foreign certification and marking, reporting arrival and distribution, and inspection at destination. The term "nursery stock" includes all field-grown florists' stock, trees, shrubs, vines, cuttings, grafts, scions, buds, fruit pits, and other seeds of fruit and ornamental trees or shrubs, and other plants and plant products for propagation, except field, vegetable, and flower seeds, bedding plants, and other herbaceous plants, bulbs, and roots.

Irish potatoes.—The importation of Irish potatoes is prohibited altogether from the countries enumerated in the potato quarantine. Potatoes may be admitted from other foreign countries in accordance with the order of December 22, 1913, bringing the entry of potatoes under restriction on account of injurious potato diseases and insect pests. The following countries have qualified for the importation of potatoes under the regulations issued under said order: Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Cuba, Bermuda, and the Dominion of Canada. The regulations issued under this order have been amended so as to permit, free of any restrictions whatsoever under the plant-quarantine act, the importation of potatoes from any foreign country into the Territories of Porto Rico and Hawaii for local use only and from the Dominion of Canada and Bermuda into the United States or any of its Territories or Districts.

Avocado, or alligator pear.—The order of February 27, 1914, prohibits the importation from Mexico and the countries of Central America of the fruits of the avocado, or alligator pear, except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order, on account of the avocado weevil. Entry is permitted only through the port of New York and is limited to the large, thick-skinned variety of the avocado. The importation of the small, purple, thin-skinned variety of the fruit of the avocado and of avocado nursery stock under 18 months of age is prohibited.

Cotton.—The order of April 27, 1915, prohibits the importation of cotton from all foreign countries and localities, except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order, on account of injurious insects, including the pink bollworm. These regulations apply in part to cotton grown in and imported from the Imperial Valley, in the State of Lower California, in Mexico.

Corn.—The order of March 1, 1917 (Amendment No. 1, with Regulations, to Notice of Quarantine No. 24), prohibits the importation of Indian corn or maize in the raw or unmanufactured state from the countries and localities listed in Notice of Quarantine No. 24, except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order, on account of injurious diseases of Indian corn.

Cottonseed products.—The order of June 23, 1917, prohibits the importation of cottonseed cake, meal, and all other cottonseed products, except oil, from all foreign countries, and a second order of June 23, 1917, prohibits the importation of cottonseed oil from Mexico except under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said orders, on account of injurious insects, including the pink bollworm.

Citrus fruits.—The order of June 27, 1917 (Notice of Quarantine No. 28, with Regulations), prohibits the importation from the countries and localities listed therein of all species and varieties of citrus fruits, excepting only oranges of the mandarin class (including satsuma and tangerine varieties), on account of the citrus-canker disease. Oranges of the mandarin class (including satsuma and tangerine varieties) may be imported under permit and in accordance with the other provisions of the regulations issued under said order.

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